

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments and the following remarks are responsive to the Final Office Action mailed December 17, 2003. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application.

Claims 1-5, 8-16, 19-28, 32-34 and 37-45 are pending. Claim 32 has been amended. Therefore, claims 1-5, 8-16, 19-28, 32-34, and 37-45 are presented for examination.

The Examiner asserts that claims 37-45, newly added, are drawn to encoding an image and are therefore classified in a different group, and thus are related subcombinations disclosed as usable together. Applicants respectfully disagree with Examiner's assessment. Claims 37-45 discuss the format of the images of claims 1 et al., rather than wavelet encoding. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims fall under MPEP 806.03, Single Embodiment, Claims Defining Same Essential Features. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims of the application define the same essential characteristics of a single disclosed embodiment of an invention. The claims are but different definitions of the same disclosed subject matter, varying in breadth or scope of definition. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the restriction requirement/election suggested by the Examiner.

Examiner objected to claim 32, because it depends on cancelled claim 31. Applicants have amended claim 32, to correct this error in dependency.

Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 8-16, 19-28 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,011,537 issued to Slotznick in view of U.S. Patent 6,037,939 issued to Kashiwagi, et al. and U.S. Patent No. 6,192,393 issued to

Tarantino, et al. Examiner rejected claims 33-34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,011,537 issued to Slotznick in view of U.S. Patent 6,476,831 issued to Wirth, et al. and U.S. Patent No. 6,192,393 issued to Tarantino, et al.

Slotznick discusses reducing wait time for downloading by downloading secondary information when the user requests primary information. In Slotznick, when the primary information is displayed “the portion of the secondary information displayed which is simultaneously displayed with the primary information may be a thumbnail, keyhole or banner image of the full secondary information.” (Slotznick, column 4, line 65 to column 5, line 1). When the user selects the secondary information, in Slotznick, “the secondary information is displayed in full size.” (Slotznick, column 14, lines 32-37). However, Slotznick does not teach or suggest generating an image. The portion referenced by the Examiner, Figure 4-5 and column 20, lines 58-64, column 21 line 52 to column 22, line 7 discuss using a portion of a secondary page/data, to be displayed with a primary page, and upon selection of the portion of the secondary page/data, displaying the whole secondary page/data.

Kashiwagi discusses interactive data manipulation. Kashiwagi discusses a graphics controller which allows “Reduce overall image” instruction. However, Kashiwagi does not teach or suggest generating an image based on a first image and additional data.

Tarantino discusses a method for panorama viewing, including tile-wise perspective correction. However, Tarantino does not teach or suggest reusing a smaller image in presenting a higher resolution/larger image.

Applicant added the limitation “reusing the first image at the first resolution level” to claim 1. The Examiner, mistakenly, assumes that this refers to Panning as illustrated in Figure

3 of Applicant's specification. However, this correctly refers to Figure X, and page X, lines Y.

For example, at page 15, paragraph 39, Applicants state:

Next, processing logic generates a second image for display at a second resolution level, where the second resolution level is selected by a user based on user input (processing block 103). The second image comprises a portion of the first image being displayed at a resolution level that is different than the resolution level of the first image.

Tarantino discusses a method for panorama viewing, including tile-wise perspective correction. However, Tarantino does not teach or suggest reusing a smaller image in presenting a higher resolution/larger image.

Applicant added the limitation "reusing the first image at the first resolution level" to claim 1. The Examiner, mistakenly, assumes that this refers to Panning as illustrated in Figure 3 of Applicant's specification. However, this correctly refers to Data Reuse, discussed in columns 43-47. Data Reuse is further explained at paragraph 60, where it states "In one embodiment, the system reuses the existing image data together with the new image data to create a high quality higher resolution view. Thus the viewer uses a file hierarchy that allows for two resolution levels to be extracted from one sub-image." Thus, it is clear from the originally added claim language, seen in view of the Specification, that the Applicant is not claiming panning, but claiming generating a second image including reusing the first image and the first resolution level and combining data from the first image with additional image data.

The Examiner points to Figure 4 of Slotznick. However, as can be seen, in Figure 4 of Slotznick, the cut-out image is at the same resolution as the full-size image. Slotznick does not teach or suggest generating a second image at a second resolution level different from the first resolution level.

Claim 1 recites:

A method comprising:
displaying a first image at a first resolution level;

identifying a location in the first image; and
generating a second image for display at a second resolution level different than the first resolution level in response to user input via a user input mechanism, wherein generating the second image comprises reusing the first image at the first resolution level and combining data from the first image with additional image data, and further wherein the second resolution level is dependant on a number of utilizations of the user input mechanism.

(claim 1, emphasis added). None of the references cited by the Examiner teach generating a second image (at a second resolution level) while reusing the first image, and combining data from the first image with additional image data. Slotznick discusses downloading a secondary (i.e. second) image, when a primary image is downloaded. Then, a portion of the secondary image is displayed. If the user selects the portion of the secondary image, the full secondary image/data as downloaded is displayed. Slotznick does not teach or suggest generating a secondary image by reusing the prior, different resolution, image. Kashiwagi does not teach or suggest generating a second image with data reuse either. Tarantino also does not teach or suggest such data reuse. Therefore, claim 1 -- and claims 2-5, 8-12, and 37-40 which depend on it -- are not obvious over Slotznick in view of Kashiwagi and Tarantino.

Similarly, claim 13, as amended, recites:

An article of manufacture comprising at least one recordable medium having executable instructions stored therein which, when executed by a system, cause the system to:
display a first image at a first resolution level;
identify a location in the first image; and
generate a second image for display at a second resolution level different than the first resolution level in response to user input via a user input mechanism, wherein generating the second image comprises reusing the first image at the first resolution level and combining data from the first image with additional image data, and further wherein the second resolution level is dependant on a number of utilizations of the user input mechanism.

As noted above with respect to claim 1, none of Slotznick, Kashiwagi, and Tarantino teach or suggest reusing an image portion with a first resolution for

combination with additional data to generate a second image with a different resolution. Therefore, claim 13, and claims 14-16 and 19-24 which depend on it, are not obvious over Slotznick in view of Kashiwagi and Tarantino.

Similarly, claim 25, as amended, recites:

An apparatus comprising:
means for displaying a first image at a first resolution level;
means for identifying a location in the first image; and
means for generating a second image for display at a second resolution level different than the first resolution level in response to user input via a user input mechanism, wherein generating the second image comprises reusing the first image at the first resolution level and combining data from the first image with additional image data, and further wherein the second resolution level is dependant on a number of utilizations of the user input mechanism.

As noted above with respect to claim 1, none of Slotznick, Kashiwagi, and Tarantino teach or suggest reusing an image portion with a first resolution for combination with additional data to generate a second image with a different resolution. Therefore, claim 25, and claims 26-28, 32, and 41-43 which depend on it, are not obvious over Slotznick in view of Kashiwagi and Tarantino.

The examiner further rejected claims 33-36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Slotznick, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,476,831 issued to Wirth, et al.

Wirth discusses visual scrolling feedback. Wirth's system provides a transient overlay which provides visual cues to the user. Wirth does not teach or suggest data reuse.

Claim 33 recites:

A method for panning images comprising:
displaying a first image at a first resolution level in a display window;
identifying a panning direction in the first image;
moving the image data in the display window in a direction opposite to the panning direction, including creating an area in the display window to display of another portion of the first image; and

generating image data for display in the area of the display window, wherein generating the image data comprises reusing the first image and combining data from the first image with additional image data.

As noted above with respect to claim 1, Slotznick does not teach or suggest reusing an image portion for combination with additional data to generate a second panned image. Wirth does not teach or suggest such a combination either, rather, Wirth teaches a separate overlay. Therefore, claim 33 and 34 are not obvious over Slotznick in view of Wirth and Tarantino

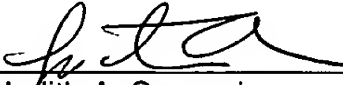
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of these claims that could be clarified with a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Judith A. Szepesi at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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